

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 3 has been canceled. New claim 5 has been added. Claims 1, 2 and 4 have been amended as follows: Underlines indicate insertions and ~~striketroughs~~ indicate deletions.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A telescopic hoist comprising:
a tubular housing having a closed first end;
a series of ~~telescopically arranged~~ tubular sections telescopically arranged in said tubular housing, each tubular section having a piston head with an opening to introduce a fluid in successive areas enclosed between two successive piston heads ~~first end and an opposite second end; each said first end having an annular head; and~~
sealing walls between said successive areas where the fluid is present and ambient air means on at least one of said first ends;
wherein said tubular sections are formed in a nitrided steel.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A telescopic hoist comprising:
a cylindrical housing;
a series of actuatable tubular sections telescopically received in said housing; each tubular section having a piston end with ~~inlet/outlet port in some of said first ends~~ an opening for passage of a pressure fluid therethrough; and

seal means between areas enclosed by two successive piston ends for ~~on at least one of~~
~~said piston ends~~ separating the fluid from ambient air; and

~~bore means in at least one of said tubular sections on a front side of said piston;~~

wherein said tubular sections are formed in a nitrided steel.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): A telescopic hoist, comprising:

a cylindrical housing;

a series of actuatable tubular sections telescopically received in said housing; each said
tubular section having a piston end; an inlet/outlet port in ~~some of~~ said first piston ends for
passage of a pressure fluid therethrough;

seal means mounted in ~~at least one of~~ said piston ends separating said fluid from ambient
air; and

bore means provided in ~~some of~~ said tubular sections on a front side of said piston ends;

wherein said tubular sections are formed in a nitrided steel so as to be in semi-lubricated
contact with one another.

Claim 5 (new): A telescopic hoist, comprising:

a series of tubular sections; and

a tubular housing with an open end to receive said series of tubular sections telescopically
arranged;

wherein said series of tubular sections comprises an outermost tubular section and at least
one inner tubular section, said outermost tubular section having a head provided with a hydraulic

inlet port allowing a fluid to be introduced in a first area between said head and a piston head of said at least one inner tubular section, each one of said at least one inner tubular section having an opening allowing the fluid to be received in a second area enclosed between the piston head thereof and a piston head of a successive tubular section, each piston head being provided with bore seals to separate the areas where the fluid is present and ambient air.